Post" on 8 April, during her recent visit to the US, Pakistani Prime Minister acknowledged that the Khushab project involved a "small reactor for an experimental purpose"

(c) No, Sir. However, the US, being a depositary state of the NPT, has been urging all countries not yet party to the treaty to accede to it.

(e) India has consistently maintained that it is opposed to signing the NPT in its present form, since it is a discriminatory treaty which creates a permanent division between the nuclear haves and have-nots. This position has been conveyed in unambiguous terms in both bilateral and as well as in international fora. India also believes that security guarantees by nuclear weapon state serve no purpose unless they are unconditional and legally blinding. Government has therefore criticised the recent UN Security Council Resolution 984 containing negative security assurances to non-nuclear weapons states party to the NPT, since it discriminates between UN members and is not legally binding.

Flexibility Shown by U.S. in Application of Prcssler's Amendment Against Pakistan

6172. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SATCHIDANANDA-.
SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the US Administration, during Pak Premier's visit to that country showed percepitible flexibility in the application of pressler's Amendment, so that the US could restore economic and military cooperation with Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what is Government's precise information about the extent of flexibility shown and the military and economic cooperation extended to Pakistan thereby?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) During the Pakistan Prime Minister's recent visit to the US, President Clinton stated that he intended to seek flexibility from the US Congress in the Pressler Amendment so that the US and Pakistan could have some economic and military cooperation. According to our present understanding, adjustment of the Pressler Amendment may be sought to allow resumption of certain economic benefits for Pakistan such as OPIC guarantees, EXIM loans and Trade and Development Assistance (TDA) as well as training under IMET programme on the military side. The question of transfer of F-16 aircraft and other military equipment, or return of the money already paid by Pakistan, could also be raised.

Subsidy to Pilgrim visiting Manasarover and Pakistan

6173. SHRI VISHNU KANT SHASTRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to unstarred question 3602 given in Rajya Sabha on the 26th April, 1995 and state:

(a) what are the reasons for not providing subsidy to the pilgrims going on Kailash-Manasarover yatra and for visiting the pilgrim centres in Pakistan;

(b) whether Government have received any memorandum/representation/request from individuals/associations/ organisations, requesting to give subsidy on the total expenditure on the pilgrimages mentioned at (a) above;

(c) if so, what action was taken thereon; and

(d) what facilities are available to pilgrims going/intend to go on pilgrimages to holy places in Bangladesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R.L. BHATIA): (a) to (c)